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INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT
CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY	USSR	DATE OF INFORMATION	1952
SUBJECT	Economic - Agriculture, spring sowing		
HOW PUBLISHED	Monthly, bimonthly periodicals; daily newspapers	DATE DIST.	1 Aug 1952
WHERE PUBLISHED	USSR	NO. OF PAGES	14
DATE PUBLISHED	1 - 30 Apr 1952		
LANGUAGE	Russian	SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.	

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Newspapers and periodicals as indicated.

USSR AGRICULTURE BEGINS SPRING SOWING CAMPAIGN

/Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources/

USSR

Because of the late spring this year, spring field work began much later than usual in many parts of the USSR. In the Kuban', sowing began under capricious and unstable weather conditions, when sunny days alternated with snowy and rainy days. However, Kuban' agricultural workers successfully carried out sowing of spiked grain crops and exceeded the plan for sowing of spring wheat. Sowing was begun in Azovskiy, Aksayskiy, Batayskiy, and other rayons in the Don region only after 20 April. Field work in Kursk Oblast began 2 weeks later than usual.

The late spring created other difficulties. High temperatures caused the soil to heat up rapidly so that, to conserve moisture, pre-sowing soil preparation and sowing of early crops had to be carried out in an extremely short time. This was the case particularly in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast and the portions of Saratov and Stalingrad oblasts lying west of the Volga, where it had been very dry last fall and snow cover was negligible last winter.

At present, spring crops are sprouting in the southern Ukraine and developing the third leaf in Krasnodar Kray. Winter wheat and rye are entering the tube stage in Kherson, Nikolayev, and Zaporozh'ye oblasts. In the southern Ukraine, Kuban', and Stavropol' Kray, MTS are sowing industrial and fodder crops and plowing fallow. In Stavropol' Kray, many MTS have already finished plowing clean fallow; the plan for sowing sunflowers has been met in the kray.

In areas along the Don, where sowing of spiked grain crops has been completed, cotton is being sown. Sowing of cotton has been completed in the Crimea, but only begun in Stalino Oblast. Cotton has sprouted in many regions of Central Asia; in Surkhan-Dar'ya Oblast, Uzbek SSR, it is already being cultivated.

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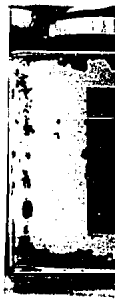

Hay is being harvested in Tadzhik SSR. In the Vakhsh River valley, kolkhozes are gathering the largest hay harvest in many years. In Voroshilovabadskiy and Molotovabadskiy rayons, hay is being cut for the first time by self-propelled tractor mowers. The grass stand is also very good this year on the Kopet-Dag Mountain slopes in Turkmenia.

In beet-growing regions, kolkhoz workers are striving to complete sowing of sugar beets by the same time as last year. Sowing has begun in Voronezn Oblast and some Ukrainian oblasts, while it is being finished in kolkhozes of Moldavia and Krasnodar Kray.

In Kuybyshev, Molotov, Ryazan', Penza, and other oblasts, where mass sowing of spiked grain crops has not yet begun, agricultural workers are busily engaged with retention of melted snow waters on the fields and supplemental fertilization of winter crops with mineral fertilizers. Kolkhozes of Kuybyshev Oblast are to carry out supplemental fertilization on 150,000 hectares, an area twice as great as last year; airplanes are being used to spread the fertilizer in grain sovkhozes. In Penza Oblast, kolkhoz workers have retained melted snow waters on an area exceeding 160,000 hectares; selective harrowing of winter fallow is now in progress in some areas.

Kolkhozes in Ryazan' Oblast are now cultivating kok-sagyz which was planted last fall; last winter, little snow fell on these fields, but retention of melted snow waters was carried out this spring. Some kolkhozes in the oblast have begun weeding caoutchouc fields.

This spring, new agrotechniques have been applied on a wider scale than ever before. In 1951, crisscross and close-row methods of sowing spring crops were used, on the average, on one of every 29 hectares; this spring, every eighth hectare is being sown by these methods. Kolkhozes are using granulated fertilizers to a greater extent. Supplemental fertilization of winter crops is being carried out on millions of hectares.(1)

In connection with spring field work and new agrotechniques, an article by Academician I. V. Yakushkin contained the following information:

In many regions of the USSR, spring came late and after its arrival was characterized by great instability. Cold days occurred even in April. Around Moscow, for example, the last heavy snow fell on 5 April and the fields were not clear of snow until 15 - 16 April. Even after this date, it became colder again, and at night temperatures fell to 5 degrees below zero.

As of 25 April, spring field work was making rapid progress in many southern and central regions of the USSR. Sowing of spiked grain crops had been completed in kolkhozes of Krasnodar Kray, Stavropol' Kray, Moldavian SSR, and Crimea, Izmail', Kherson, Zaporozh'ye, and other oblasts. Sowing of fodder, oil-bearing, and industrial crops was in full swing in these regions.

In Central Asia, sowing of cotton is proceeding more rapidly than last year. Thinning has already begun in Bukhara and Namangan oblasts, Uzbek SSR.

Sowing began in the first half of April in Astrakhan' Oblast, and harrowing of winter fallow on 18 April in Saratov Oblast. Selective sowing of spiked grain crops has begun in Latvian SSR and Estonian SSR, as well as in many kolkhozes in the central regions. In southern Siberia, moisture conservation work and harrowing and supplemental fertilization of winter crops is in general progress.

New agrotechniques are being widely applied this year. For example, as of 10 April, the plan for sowing by the crisscross method had been met 130 percent in Stavropol' Kray, 135 percent in Crimea Oblast, and 200 percent in Kabarda ASSR. (2)

In another article, Academician I. V. Yakushkin outlined measures for spring care of winter crops as follows:

In 1952, spring care of winter crops sown last fall is particularly important in view of the fact that in many sections of the USSR insufficient precipitation occurred during the late summer and fall of 1951. As a result, winter crops in many regions barely reached the bushing stage during the autumn and entered the winter period with inadequately developed root systems.

Spring care of winter crops consists principally of retention of melted snow waters, early supplemental fertilization, timely harrowing, and spring weeding of grains, particularly winter wheat.

Retention of melted snow waters is particularly important in the arid and semiarid zones. Abundant snowfall in February 1952 made possible an appreciable increase in moisture content of the soil in many regions, where proper measures were taken to conserve it.

Early spring supplemental fertilization provides plants with easily absorbed nutritive substances and increases the activity of soil microorganisms. Immediately after the snow cover melts, winter crops are in a weak condition, since they have been expending throughout the winter the carbohydrates stored up in the fall. Properly timed spring supplemental fertilization in combination with high moisture content in the soil permits thorough dissolution of nutritive substances contained in fertilizer.

Rotted manure, poultry manure, ashes, dung water, and mineral fertilizers are the principal types of fertilizer used for supplemental fertilization of winter crops. Recommended amounts per hectare are as follows: rotted manure, 8-10 metric tons; poultry manure, 3-5 quintals; ashes, 5-6 quintals; dung water, 3-6 metric tons; ammoniac nitrate, 0.7-1.0 quintals; ammonium sulfate, 1-1.5 quintals; superphosphate, 2-3 quintals; and potassium salts, 0.5-0.75 quintal. If superphosphate is granulated, only half the indicated amount is needed. When winter crops have bushed well and the stand is thick, use of potassium fertilizer will largely avert lodging.

Use of mineral fertilizers is governed by type of soil and condition of sowings. Nitrogen fertilizers are the basic type usually used, particularly on turfy podzols (dernovo-podzolistyye pochvy). If phosphates are not applied in the fall when soil is prepared for sowing, it is very important to apply them in the spring, both in the chernozem region and in regions with turfy podzol soils.

The area of sowings given supplemental fertilization by airplane is increasing every year. Aerial fertilization is more effective than either application with seed-fertilizer drills or manual spreading. Supplemental fertilization by air is desirable under conditions when men and machines are unable to work in the fields because of slush and mud.

Harrowing of winter crops breaks the soil crust, permits more oxygen to reach the roots, decreases moisture evaporation, and cleans the fields of dead vegetation and weeds. Harrowing too early is not good; if the soil is still wet, the harrow teeth leave small furrows behind them. Harrowing too late is

likewise inadvisable. In the southern regions, the best period for spring harrowing, especially of rye, is limited to a few days. Frequently, the period for spring harrowing of winter crops coincides with the beginning of the spring sowing period, and all-out effort is necessary to avoid falling behind schedule.

Harrowing of winter crops is done perpendicularly or diagonally to the direction of the rows. Both light and heavy harrows are used, depending on the condition of soil and plants. Heavy harrows are best for use on dusty clayey soils, while light harrows are recommended for use on sandy soils. Weakly developed winter sowings which have not bushed should be harrowed twice. On the average, spring harrowing increases yields by 2 quintals per hectare.(3)

* * *

During the last 3 years, the fodder base of the USSR has expanded considerably. If figures for 1948 are represented by 100 percent in each case, then corresponding figures for 1951 are represented by the following percentages: harvested area of perennial grasses 214, annual grasses 322, fodder root crops 244, ensilage crops 290, natural hay fields 131; storage of ensilage 147; and sown area of perennial grasses 218.

In 1951, MTS alone harvested more than 18 million hectares of hay fields and stored more than 7 million tons of ensilage; these figures are, respectively, 12 times and 73 times greater than those for 1948.

In 1952, the following percentage increases over actual results obtained in 1951 are to be achieved: harvesting of coarse fodder crops 16; storage of ensilage 35; sowing of perennial grasses 29, fodder root crops 15, and ensilage crops 12.(4)

At present, there are 8,680 MTS, shelter-belt stations, and other specialized stations in the USSR.

By the end of 1951, 165 shelter belt stations had been organized in the steppe and forest-steppe regions of the USSR. Together with MTS, they perform with machines such work as soil preparation, planting and sowing, and cultivation of shelter belts.

In the period 1949 - 1951, 119 MZhS (mechanized animal husbandry stations) and 68 meadow improvement stations were organized in USSR livestock-raising regions to mechanize labor-consuming work.

To improve MTS operations and service to kolkhozes, measures were taken to enlarge the repair base and to increase the number of metal-cutting machines in repair enterprises. The number of repair plants tripled between 1940 and 1950, while the number of metal-cutting machines in repair shops serving MTS increased 50 percent in the decade. By the end of 1950, MTS of the Ministry of Agriculture had at their disposal 17,000 motorized repair shops for repairing and 16,200 fuel trucks for fueling tractors in the field.

In 1951, MTS performed more than two thirds of all field work in kolkhozes. They harvested more than 19 million hectares of hay fields and stored about 8 million tons of ensilage /note discrepancy from figures cited above, under source 4/.

In 1951, there was an increase in the use of electric power for grain grinding, fodder preparation, water pumping, and sheep shearing in kolkhozes. More than 5 million head of sheep were shorn with electric clippers.

Utilization of available tractors, combines, agricultural machinery, and other equipment is still unsatisfactory in some MTS, with the result that much important agricultural work is not performed at the proper time and the harvest suffers considerably.

The final results for 1951 show that MTS and other specialized stations did not fully meet their assigned tasks, especially with respect to such important aspects of their work as plowing of fallow, shallow plowing of stubble, ensilage storage, and mechanized harvesting of flax, sugar beets, and grass se...(5)

Estonian SSR

There are now 65 MTS operating in the republic. Mechanization of agricultural operations has risen from 4 percent in 1948 to 45.2 percent in 1951. In 1952, MTS must perform not less than 62 percent of all work in kolkhozes.(6)

Latvian SSR

In 1952, the total sown area in kolkhozes is to increase 16 percent.(7)

In 1952, the total sown area in the republic as a whole is also to increase 16 percent. Sowings of wheat, kok-sagyz, ensilage crops, perennial grasses, and fodder root crops will be extended considerably. Grain yields are to average 17-18 quintals per hectare, sugar beets 200, potatoes 160, flax fiber 4, hay from natural grasses 18, and hay from perennial grasses 33.(8)

Lithuanian SSR

The area sown to spring wheat in the Lithuanian SSR was almost twice as great in 1952 as in 1940. Under conditions prevailing in the republic, the yield of spring wheat is greater than that of all other spring grains.

Spring wheat produces a good harvest when fall plowing is deep and performed early. Manure should be applied to the land either under the preceding crop or in the fall before wheat is to be sown. If manure must be applied in the spring, it should be rotted manure. Wood ashes may also be applied in the spring. After sprouting but before bushing of the wheat, supplemental fertilization with poultry manure or dung water is carried out.

Spring wheat suffers severely from the presence of weeds; therefore, weeding should be carried out at least twice. Weeding should be continued until the wheat enters the tube stage.(9)

As of 25 April, the 1952 plan for sowing spring crops had been met in the oblasts of the republic as follows (in percent): Kaunas 11.2, Vil'nyus 8.3, Shyaulyay 2.9, and Klaypeda 5.8.(10)

As of 1 April, the 1952 plan for tractor repair had been met in the oblasts of the republic as follows (in percent): Klaypeda 92.8, Kaunas 90.9, Shyaulyay 90.1, and Vil'nyus 87.3.(11)

Belorussian SSR

In 1952, the sown area in the republic will be extended considerably, principally by bringing under cultivation 140,000 hectares of unplowed fallow (zalezh'), and also by draining 150,000 hectares of marshland, peat bog, and swamp.(12)

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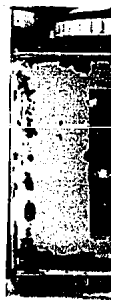
Winter grains play an important role in Belorussian agriculture. Approximately half of the total area sown to grains in the republic is sown to winter wheat and winter rye. As a result of their high yields, these two crops supply well over half the total grain harvest.(23)

As of 29 April, kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Polesye Oblast had met the plan for sowing of early spiked grain crops 100.2 percent and the plan for supplemental fertilization of winter crops 120 percent. Sowing is continuing.

As of 29 April, kolkhozes of Brest Oblast had met the plan for sowing of early spiked grain crops 101.2 percent. Sowing is continuing.(24)



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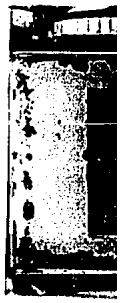

Oblast	1 Apr (18)		10 Apr (17)		20 Apr (15)	
	Manure	Peat	Manure	Peat	Manure	Peat
Polotsk	69.9	110.2	76.1	119.9	79.1	122.5
Baranovichi	64.9	100.9	70.1	122.7	70.9	124.1
Pinsk	61.1	96.7	66.7	106.1	70.8	107.6
Brest	56.2	68.6	62.5	74.6	64.9	76.3
Gomel'	53.7	83.5	58.1	87.7	60.0	88.6
Minsk	53.1	103.1	57.3	110.1	58.2	111.1
Molodechno	47.3	71.2	55.2	83.4	58.7	85.2
Mogilev	46.9	51.4	52.4	54.8	55.2	55.5
Bobruysk	46.8	80.4	51.2	86.4	53.9	87.6
Vitebsk	45.8	60.7	51.4	66.9	54.2	68.2
Grodno	44.9	109.1	52.0	120.5	52.5	121.1
Poles'ye	38.5	58.8	43.8	68.3	46.7	64.2

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the 1951 - 1952 fall-winter tractor-repair plan by oblasts of the republic:

Oblast	1 Apr (18)	10 Apr (17)
Pinsk	97.2	98.6
Gomel'	96.9	101.4
Poles'ye	96.9	100.5
Baranovichi	92.9	95.4
Brest	92.6	97.6
Grodno	91.9	95.6
Mogilev	91.1	95.0
Molodechno	90.6	95.4
Bobruysk	90.4	94.2
Minsk	87.8	92.9
Vitebsk	85.4	90.0
Polotsk	84.2	87.2

Ukrainian SSR

In 1951, the area planted to cotton in the republic increased 50 percent over 1950 and reached a figure double that of prewar. The average yield was up 24 percent over 1950, and procurement was almost double by volume that of 1950. In 1952, the yield is to be raised 40 percent over 1951.

The area planted to cotton in Zaporozh'ye Oblast in 1951 was 178 percent of 1940, and deliveries were 2.3 times those of 1950.(19)

In the southern regions of the Ukraine, warm spring weather has set in, the snow is melting rapidly, and the soil is drying. Field work is under way on a large scale in Izmail' Oblast. Kolkhozes have finished sowing early spring crops and sunflowers. Planting of potatoes and vegetables and sowing of fodder grasses and volatile oil crops is in full swing. Winter crops are being harrowed, and early fallow is being plowed.(20)

Conditions this spring differ sharply from those of the last few years. Because of low temperatures in March and late occurrence of precipitation, especially in the form of snow, field work in the republic began 10-15 days later than usual. Then, almost immediately, temperatures rose to a high level,

so that warming up of the soil took place more quickly than usual not only in the steppe and forest-steppe regions of the republic but also in the Poles'ye region. Thus, conservation of moisture in the soil is particularly important this spring.

As of 15 April, kolkhozes and MTS of Odessa Oblast had met the plan for spring sowing of spiked grains only 73.1 percent, of sunflowers 40.4 percent, and for harrowing of winter crops 41.1 percent. At the same time, many kolkhozes in the southern Ukraine have not even begun sowing of fodder root crops, such as mangel-wurzel and carrots. In this latter respect, the pattern of last year is being repeated.

In Nikolayev Oblast, where sowing has been in progress for 10 days already, sowing of spiked grains, sunflowers, and fodder root crops, as well as re-sowing and harrowing of winter crops has not been completed as of 15 April.

In Kirovograd Oblast, kolkhozes have completed sowing of spiked grains only 52 percent, of sunflowers 23 percent. Only a few kolkhozes have begun sowing fodder root crops and ensilage crops.

Spring field work is proceeding very slowly in Poltava, Khar'kov, Vinnitsa, and Kiev oblasts.

The Ministry of Agriculture Ukrainian SSR has noted an indifferent attitude on the part of MTS administrations and rubber-bearing-plant administrations in Volyn, L'vov, Stanislav, and Rovno oblasts with respect to the sowing of kok-sagyz.(21)

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Kherson Oblast had, by 24 April, completed sowing of cotton on the entire area intended to be sown.(22) Those in Nikolayev Oblast had finished by 25 April.(23)

There are 1,334 MTS and other specialized stations in the republic. The number of tractors (in terms of 15-horsepower units) available to agriculture is 14 percent greater than in 1950.

In 1951, MTS of the republic received 10,519 combines. In 1951, they met the plan for tractor work 110 percent, and the total volume of tractor work (in terms of soft tillage) increased 11 million hectares over 1950 and 30 million hectares over 1940.

In 1951, MTS of Kherson Oblast received 338 tractors and 425 combines. In 1952, 2,575 combines will work in the fields of oblast kolkhozes.(24)

Application of minor-element fertilizers, which serve to raise the yield of various agricultural crops, is increasing in the Ukraine. Experiments conducted on the fields of scientific research institutions and of kolkhozes have shown that application of small amounts of boron, copper, manganese, zinc, and other so-called minor elements to fields will also increase the quality of agricultural products. Application of boron will increase the sugar content of beets by 0.7-1.0 percent, the oil content of castor beans by 1.4-1.7 percent, and the raw cotton yield by 1.1-2.7 quintals per hectare. In 1952, minor-element fertilizers will be applied to more than 50,000 hectares in the republic.(25)

Moldavian SSR

In 1951, the area sown to industrial crops was extended as follows: sugar beets, more than doubled; cotton, ten times; and tobacco, 33 percent. In 1951, MTS of the republic performed 39 percent more work in kolkhozes than in 1950.(26)

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the 1952 plan for sowing of spring crops in kolkhozes of the republic:

Okrug	All Crops	Early Spring Crops	Spring Wheat	Sun-flowers	Sugar Beets	Maize	Grains and Legumes	Soy-beans	Cotton
1 Apr (27)									
Kagul		53.4	69.7	39.7					
Tiraspol'		5.1	7.5	2.2					
Kishinev		0.9	1.0	0.6					
Bel'tsy		0.0	0.0	0.0					
10 Apr (28)									
Kagul	44.2	95.1	94.9	95.0	--				
Tiraspol'	34.4	84.4	86.4	80.4	--				
Kishinev	20.5	47.0	58.6	39.2	4.5				
Bel'tsy	16.8	34.1	90.8	25.1	4.8				
15 Apr (29)									
Kagul	67.0			98.4	--	59.6			
Tiraspol'	53.6			98.1	--	23.6			
Kishinev	41.6			80.9	54.9	5.7			
Bel'tsy	38.5			72.3	47.6	4.8			
20 Apr (30)									
Kagul	96.2					91.7	104.8	--	95.2
Tiraspol'	82.9					79.6	87.0	--	89.6
Kishinev	66.1					42.8	62.1	53.7	82.9
Bel'tsy	67.7					39.6	66.5	50.0	--
25 Apr (31)									
Kagul	102.5					98.8		--	
Tiraspol'	95.9					95.9		--	
Kishinev	87.2					86.1		86.5	
Bel'tsy	91.0					85.1		91.4	

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the plan for harrowing and supplemental fertilization of winter crops in kolkhozes of the republic:

	1 Apr (27)		10 Apr (28)		15 Apr (29)	
Okrug	Harrowing	Supplemental Fertilization	Harrowing	Supplemental Fertilization	Harrowing	Supplemental Fertilization
Kagul	13.2	118.3	75.0	129.1	86.0	130.2
Tiraspol'	2.8	66.1	62.5	84.0	86.1	90.1
Kishinev	0.7	59.2	42.7	82.0	69.3	87.6
Bel'tsy	1.7	75.8	25.5	100.6	73.9	107.0

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the plan for sowing of fodder crops in kolkhozes of the republic:

	15 Apr (29)			20 Apr (30)		25 Apr (31)		
Okrug	Annual Grasses	Ensilage Crops	Fodder Root Crops	Ensilage Crops	Fodder Root Crops	Annual Grasses	Ensilage Crops	Fodder Root Crops
Kagul	69.3	43.0	47.1	64.8	56.9	113.9	86.3	79.9
Tiraspol'	71.3	29.6	54.1	47.2	78.8	108.6	78.5	100.1
Kishinev	44.2	7.7	35.1	22.5	70.5	80.2	51.7	94.3
Bel'tsy	53.5	15.7	18.9	20.0	46.0	78.5	60.1	75.1

Georgian SSR

In 1952, the area sown to wheat in the republic must be increased by 75,000 hectares.(32)

There are 36,895 hectares planted to tea in the republic. In 1951, kolkhozes and sovkhozes gave the state 62,600 metric tons of prime-quality tea leaves. In 1952, this figure is to increase to 67,800 metric tons.

The following table compares percentage fulfillment of the plans for various spring operations in the republic as of 1 April 1951 and 1952:

Operation	1 Apr 51	1 Apr 52
Spring plowing	31.8	66.2
Supplemental fertilization of winter crops	45.4	70.1
Harrowing of winter crops	25.9	100.0
Manure application to spring crop fields	28.8	55.6
Spring sowing	6.5	17.7 (33)

Since 1950, the USSR government has released large amounts of mineral fertilizers to the Georgian SSR for use on its grain fields. More than 70,000 tons were brought into the republic in 1950, and more than 210,000 tons in 1951.(34)

Armenian SSR

In 1951, the total sown area in kolkhozes of the republic increased 7.2 percent over 1950. The area sown to wheat increased by 49,000 hectares. Vineyards and fruit orchards were restored or new ones laid out on an area of 3,000 hectares. Grain yields were 16 percent higher in 1951 than in 1950. In 1951, kolkhozes put into use 43,000 hectares of new land, mineral fertilizers were applied to the entire area sown to wheat, and 100 percent of the area sown to grain was sown with graded seed.

There are now 53 MTS in the republic: they service more than 90 percent of the kolkhozes. Thus far in 1952, the republic tractor park has increased 13 percent over 1951.

In 1952, the total sown area in kolkhozes of the republic is to be increased 65,700 hectares. Sown area increases include 61,550 hectares for wheat, 700 for tobacco, 700 for cotton, and 15,000 for fodder crops [note discrepancy between total and components]. In 1952, kolkhozes are to put into use 53,000 hectares of new land and to convert 42,000 hectares of cropped plowland to the new system of irrigation.(35)

As of 10 April, percentage fulfillment of the plans for various spring operations in the republic was as follows: sowing of spring crops 17.8 (including sowing of spring wheat 14.1), supplemental fertilization of winter crops 36.3, harrowing of winter crops 22.2, and planting of cotton (as of 12 April) 51.7.(36)

According to data of the Ministry of Agriculture Armenian SSR, kolkhozes of the republic sowed 5.9 percent of the area to be sown to all spring crops and 5.6 percent of the area to be sown to spring wheat during the 5-day period preceding 20 April. As of 20 April, kolkhozes and MTS of the republic had met the plans for supplemental fertilization and harrowing of winter crops 41.5 and 29.1 percent, respectively.(37)

RSFSR

In 1952, mineral fertilizers are to be applied by means of specially equipped airplanes to about 2,000 hectares of winter crops and perennial grasses in sovkhozes of Leningrad Oblast.(38)

After heavy snowfalls and snowstorms, it has become warmer in the southern Urals. Snow is disappearing from the fields. The late spring is compelling kolkhoz workers to use even slightly favorable days for beginning their field work. Field work has begun in some kolkhozes and sovkhozes.(39)

Field work has begun in kolkhozes of Ivanovo Oblast. Many kolkhozes have begun supplemental fertilization of winter crops.

Rains are speeding the melting of snow in Tatar ASSR. Many kolkhozes in the eastern and southeastern portions of the republic have begun supplemental fertilization of winter crops with mineral and local fertilizers. Some kolkhozes have begun harrowing of winter fallow. Retention of melted snow waters is continuing generally.

It is becoming warmer in the Middle Volga Region. Sovkhozes are active in the retention of melted snow waters. Manually and with tractors, terraces and dikes are being constructed; ashes and humus are being strewn on the snow. In the grain sovkhozes, retention of melted snow waters is being carried out on 18,000 hectares; on 5,730 hectares, airplanes are being used to scatter ashes on snow still lying on the fields.(40)

In 1951, the Ministry of State Farms RSFSR increased fodder production considerably. In 1951, as compared with 1940, the area under fodder crops was 67.1 percent greater and that under fodder root crops and cucurbits was more than twice as great. In 1951, as compared with 1948, the harvest of coarse fodder rose 55.1 percent and storage of ensilage increased 72.8 percent.

In 1952, the fodder base in each sovkhoz is to be increased again. Annual grasses are to be sown on 259,000 hectares, while annual grasses, ensilage crops, fodder root crops, and cucurbits together are to occupy an area exceeding 400,000 hectares.(4)

Kazakh SSR

In fall 1951, kolkhozes of the republic met the plan for plowing of winter fallow only 52.2 percent. In 1951, 81.3 percent of the area sown to grains in kolkhozes of the republic was sown with graded seed. In 1951, the cotton-procurement plan was met only 75 percent in South Kazakhstan Oblast and 47.8 percent in Dzhambul Oblast. The republic did not fulfill the 1951 plan for yield or gross harvest of any major crop. One of the main reasons for this poor showing was the completely unsatisfactory performance by MTS of the republic.(41)

Kolkhozes of South Kazakhstan Oblast fulfilled the cotton-sowing plan on 26 April, which was earlier than last year.(42)

In 1951, 729,000 hectares of perennial grasses of a possible 3 million hectares were cut in the republic. In 1951, 425,000 hectares of perennial grasses were sown, of a planned 998,000 hectares. In 1952, the area sown to grasses and fodder crops is to be increased by 790,000 hectares, which means that it is to be more than doubled.(43)

Uzbek SSR

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the 1952 plan for cotton planting in sovkhozes and kolkhozes of the republic:

Oblast	5 Apr (44)	10 Apr (45)	15 Apr (46)	21 Apr (47)	25 Apr (48)
Surkhan-Dar'ya	71.1	89.1	99.0	100.0	100.0
Namangan	83.4	98.4	100.0	100.0	100.0
Fergana	68.7	86.9	98.3	100.0	100.0
Bukhara	67.7	90.5	98.2	99.5	100.0
Andizhan	67.0	80.5	93.8	98.6	99.9
Tashkent	32.8	58.3	88.5	93.8	98.8
Kashka-Dar'ya	32.4	72.2	97.7	100.0	100.0
Kara-Kalpak ASSR	17.1	36.2	54.7	76.7	88.6
Samarkand	19.3	53.5	84.7	92.6	99.0
Khorezm	17.6	37.1	55.5	77.6	88.5

As of 18 April, cotton-growing sovkhozes of the republic had completed the 1952 plan for cotton planting.(49)

Turkmen SSR

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the 1952 plan for cotton planting by oblasts of the republic:

Oblast	1 Apr (50)	5 Apr (51)	10 Apr (52)	15 Apr (53)
Mary	42.3	63.2	88.8	100.0
Ashkhabad	18.3	46.2	82.2	98.8
Chardzhou	8.5	22.7	48.4	70.1
Tashauz	8.1	19.1	36.7	52.6

Tadzhik SSR

In 1951, the republic fulfilled the plans for delivery of grain, seed flax, dried fruits, fresh fruits, cocoons, geraniums, vegetables, karakul pelts, furs and hides, etc.

However, the plan for delivery of wool was not fulfilled. Only seven rayons in the republic, Voroshilovabadskiy, Stalinabadskiy, Kaganovichabadskiy, Molotovabadskiy, Kanibadamskiy, Shugnanskiy, and Murgabskiy, fulfilled their plans for wool deliveries. Nor did the republic fulfill the plan for delivery of meat and milk.

Republic offices of the Ministry of Agricultural Procurement USSR are functioning unsatisfactorily. During the first quarter 1952, procurement was unsatisfactory, particularly with regard to meat and milk.(54)

In 1951, the republic did not fulfill its pledges for cotton delivery. In Kuybyshevskiy, Kirovabadskiy, Kurgan-Tyubinskiy, and Nauskiy rayons, the 1951 yield was lower than the 1950. Altogether, 15 rayons and 177 kolkhozes failed to fulfill the plan as well as their pledges for cotton deliveries.

The plan for conversion to the new irrigation system and the plan for putting new land into use are also proceeding unsatisfactorily in the republic.(55)

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